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ABRAHAM PENROD AND
ELLEN E. DURFEE PENROD



Abraham Penrod was born in Hancock County, Iowa, on July 12, 1844. He died December 26, 1893, at Wallburg, Utah.

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See
Penrods
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WALLSBURG BIOGRAPHIES

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Ellen E. Penrod was born March 18, 1848, at New Canton, Pike County, Illinois. She died May 6, 1925. Both are buried at Wallburg, Utah.

The Penrod family moved to Utah in 1850, settling in Provo. When the Black-hawk War broke out anew, he joined the "Territorial Militia," to help defend the settlers against the Indians who were stealing cattle, burning buildings and massacring the people.

When the Church organized the Perpetual Emigration Fund Company, he was asked to drive teams back to the states to bring out those who were too poor to make their way over the plains. He made two such trips back to Winter Quarters.

Ellen's folks settled in a little town named Eden, near Ogden valley. Ellen was run over by a wagon coming across the plains, breaking her back. Her father made a swing cradle and hung it to the bows of the wagon for her to lie in, so the jar of the wagon would not hurt her.

In 1870, Abraham met Ellen at Eden. They were married and went to Provo, Utah, to live. Abraham was a brother to William Wall's wife and William got Abraham to bring his family up to Wallburg to help him, with other families, in settling the little valley. Their home served as a hotel for school teachers and all others who came to the valley for work or to visit. They were always welcomed and made to feel at home. They lived here the remainder of their life. They were blessed with six children: David Abraham, Elmer, DeLose Wells, Ada Ellen, Eva Elmina and Minervea Ora.

DAVID A. PENROD AND ISABELL KERBY

David Abram Penrod was born April 9, 1872, at Provo, Utah, oldest son of Abraham and Ellen Durfee Penrod. He came to Wallsburg with his parents at the age of two. Isabell Kerby was born January 12, 1870, in Wallsburg, daughter of Francis and Mary LeCarnu Kerby. In Mary's writing in her family history she says: "David Abram Penrod and Isabell Kerby, founders of this record and family, were raised in the little town of Wallsburg, one of the most beautiful villages in the world,

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nestling among the mountains which seem to surround it as a towering wall of protection." They were both reared on the farm and enjoyed the privileges and pleasures of country life. They started to go together in June, 1890, and were married in the Manti Temple on October 28, 1892. Isabell died July 22, 1922, in Idaho, and is buried with her baby daughter, Ellen, in the cemetery at Declo, Idaho. David died at Pleasant Grove, Utah, on October 4, 1949, after a lingering illness.

After Isabell's death, David married Melissa Ford, daughter of Joseph Lewis Ford and Eliza Lovisa Smith. She was born February 4, 1881, and died November 29, 1942. He then married Clara Farley Mecham, who was born February 19, 1892.

As a young man, David carried the mail on horseback to Heber and back. It took a young man to stand up under the strain.

David filled a mission in the Southern States from 1905 to 1907. His experiences in Kentucky were a tremendous test of the spiritual and moral strength of the young man. While he was gone, Isabell took care of the children and farm, with the help of her son Francis, 12.

David was a Seventy in the Church, an office he wanted to remain in. After they moved to Declo, Idaho, he filled two stake missions in Cassia County, 1927-28 and 1937-38, and in the Timpanogos Stake, 1940-41. He was an ardent Church worker.

Isabell was a great worker in the Wallsburg Ward. She was blessed with the natural gift of the poet, like many of the gifted members of the Kerby family. She was called to write poetry and prose for her president of the YWMIA, counselor in the Church activities. In Wallsburg she was Primary and Relief Society and a Sunday School teacher. She was a fine actress also.

Their children: Francis, Mabel, Paul, MaDella, and Louise. 977